OREGON COASTAL NONPOINT PROGRAM NOAA/EPA FINAL FINDING

FOREWORD

This document contains the bases for the final determination by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (collectively, the federal agencies) that the State of Oregon (State) has failed to submit an approvable Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program (Coastal Nonpoint Program) as required by Section 6217(a) of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 (CZARA), 16 U.S.C. 1455b. NOAA and EPA arrived at this decision because the federal agencies find that the State had not fully satisfied all conditions placed on the State's Coastal Nonpoint Program.

On January 13, 1998, the federal agencies approved the Oregon Coastal Nonpoint Program subject to specific conditions that the State still needed to address (see "Oregon Conditional Approval Findings"). Since then, the State has made incremental modifications to its program and has met most of those conditions.

On December 20, 2013, the federal agencies provided notice of their intent to find that the State has not fully satisfied the conditions related to new development, onsite sewage disposal systems (OSDS), and additional management measures for forestry (see "Oregon Coastal Nonpoint Program NOAA/EPA Proposed Finding"). The federal agencies invited public comment on the proposed findings relating to these conditions, as well as the extent to which those findings support a finding that the State failed to submit an approvable program under CZARA. Based on concerns the federal agencies had heard about agriculture nonpoint source management in the state, the federal agencies also invited public comment on the adequacy of the State's programs and policies for meeting the CZARA 6217(g) agriculture management measures and conditions placed on Oregon's Coastal Nonpoint Program. Because the December 20, 2013's notice of intent did not propose a specific decision on whether or not Oregon had satisfied the CZARA 6217(g) agriculture management measures and the public did not have an opportunity to comment on a specific proposed decision and rationale for that decision, the adequacy of Oregon's agriculture programs is not a basis for the final findings that Oregon has failed to submit an approvable coastal nonpoint program. The public will have an opportunity to comment on NOAA and EPA's proposed decision regarding the agriculture management measures at a later date. (See "NOAA and EPA Response to Comments Regarding the Agencies' Proposed Finding that Oregon has Failed to Submit a Fully Approvable Coastal Nonpoint Program" for a summary of the comments received and NOAA and EPA's response to them.)

In response to NOAA and EPA's proposed findings, Oregon provided an additional submission in support of its coastal nonpoint program on March 20, 2014 (see "Oregon's Response to Proposed Disapproval Findings").

NOAA and EPA have carefully reviewed the public comments received and the State's March 2014 submission and have made a final determination that Oregon has failed to submit an approvable coastal nonpoint program. This decision is based on the State's failure to address the additional management measures for forestry condition. Based on information the State provided in March, the federal agencies believe that Oregon has now satisfied the conditions for new

development and OSDS so these conditions are no longer a basis for the finding that Oregon has failed to submit an approvable coastal nonpoint program. Because the public did not have an opportunity to comment on a specific proposed decision and rationale on whether or not Oregon had satisfied the CZARA 6217(g) agriculture management measures, the adequacy of Oregon's agriculture programs is not a basis for the final findings that Oregon has failed to submit an approvable coastal nonpoint program.

For further understanding of terms in this document and the basis of this decision, the reader is referred to the following documents which are available at:

- Guidance Specifying Management Measures for Sources of Nonpoint Pollution in Coastal Waters (EPA, January 1993);
- Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program: Program Development and Approval Guidance (NOAA and EPA, January 1993);
- Flexibility for State Coastal Nonpoint Programs (NOAA and EPA, March 1995);
- Final Administrative Changes to the Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program Guidance for Section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 (CZARA) (NOAA and EPA, October 1998);
- Policy Clarification on Overlap of 6217 Coastal Nonpoint Programs with Phase I and II Stormwater Regulations (NOAA and EPA, December 2002); and
- Enforceable Policies and Mechanisms for State Coastal Nonpoint Source Programs (NOAA and EPA January 2001).

Electronic copies of the documents cited above as well as any other references cited in this document and the Federal Register Notice announcing this action will be available at the following website: http://coast.noaa.gov/czm/pollutioncontrol.

SCOPE OF DECISION

This document explains the federal agencies' final finding regarding the additional management measures for forestry condition. This finding forms the basis for the federal agencies' proposed determination that the State has failed to submit an approvable program. The document also notes that the new development and OSDS management measures are no longer a basis for this decision. In addition, the document acknowledges the comments received regarding the adequacy of Oregon's agriculture programs and policies for meeting the 6217(g) agriculture management measures and conditions placed on Oregon's Coastal Nonpoint Program.

NOAA and EPA's final findings in this document are based on information the State has submitted in support of each condition, the federal agencies' knowledge of coastal nonpoint source pollution management in Oregon, and the public comments received. Oregon may—and is encouraged to—continue to work on and improve its program to satisfy all coastal nonpoint program requirements. If, based on a later review of information received from the State subsequent to what the federal agencies considered for this document, NOAA and EPA determine that the State has submitted a fully approvable program, the federal agencies will provide another opportunity for public comment. At this time, the public will be asked to provide comment on whether or not the State has satisfied all conditions placed on its program in 1998 and met all CZARA requirements.

PROPOSED FINDING OF FAILURE TO SUBMIT AN APPROVABLE PROGRAM

The federal agencies find that the State of Oregon has failed to submit an approvable program pursuant to Section 6217(a) of CZARA.

I. <u>UNMET CONDITION</u>

A. ADDITIONAL MANAGEMENT MEASURES- FORESTRY

PURPOSE OF MANAGEMENT MEASURE: The purpose of this management measure is to identify additional management measures necessary to achieve and maintain applicable water quality standards and protect designated uses for land uses where the 6217(g) management measures are already being implemented under existing nonpoint source programs but water quality is still impaired due to identified nonpoint sources.

CONDITION FROM JANUARY 1998 FINDINGS: Within two years, Oregon will identify and begin applying additional management measures where water quality impairments and degradation of beneficial uses attributable to forestry exist despite implementation of the 6217(g) measures. (1998 Findings, Section X).

FINDING: Oregon has not satisfied this condition. By not satisfying the additional management measures for forestry, Oregon has failed to submit an approvable program under CZARA.

RATIONALE: Oregon proposes to address the additional management measures for forestry condition through a combination of regulatory and voluntary programs. While Oregon has made some progress towards meeting this condition, the State has not identified or begun to apply additional management measures to fully address the program weaknesses the federal agencies noted in the January 13, 1998, Findings for Oregon's Coastal Nonpoint Program. Specifically, the State has not demonstrated it has management measures, backed by enforceable authorities, in place to: (1) protect riparian areas for medium and small fish bearing streams, and non-fish bearing (type "N") streams; (2) protect high-risk landslide areas; (3) address the impacts of forest roads, particularly on so-called "legacy" roads; and (4) ensure adequate stream buffers for the application of herbicides, particularly on non-fish bearing streams.

Protection of Riparian Areas: [Insert final rationale]

Forestry Road Additional Management Measures: [Insert final rationale]

Landslide Prone Areas: [Insert final rationale]

Buffers for Pesticide Application on Non-Fish Bearing (Type N) Streams: [Insert final rationale]

II. CONDITIONS THAT ARE NO LONGER A BASIS FOR THIS DECISION

A. URBAN AREAS MANAGEMENT MEASURES – NEW DEVELOPMENT

PURPOSE OF MANAGEMENT MEASURE: The purpose of this management measure is four-fold: (1) decrease the erosive potential of increased volumes and velocities of stormwater associated with development-induced changes in hydrology; (2) remove suspended solids and associated pollutants entrained in runoff that result from activities occurring during and after development; (3) retain hydrological conditions that closely resemble those of the predisturbance condition; and (4) preserve natural systems including in-stream habitat.

CONDITION FROM JANUARY 1998 FINDINGS: Within two years, Oregon will include in its program: (1) management measures in conformity with the 6217(g) guidance; and (2) enforceable policies and mechanisms to ensure implementation throughout the coastal nonpoint management area. (1998 Findings, Section IV.A).

FINDING: Based on information provided in Oregon's March 2014 submission, NOAA and EPA now believe the State has satisfied this condition. The new development management measure is no longer a basis for finding that the Oregon has failed to submit an approvable program under CZARA.

RATIONALE NOT INCLUDED: NOAA and EPA will provide a rationale for public comment if/when the federal agencies are in a position to propose full approval of Oregon's coastal nonpoint pollution control program at a later point in time.

B. OPERATING ONSITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

PURPOSE OF MANAGEMENT MEASURE: The purpose of this management measure is to minimize pollutant loadings from operating OSDS.

CONDITION FROM JANUARY 1998 FINDINGS: Within two years, Oregon will finalize its proposal to inspect operating OSDS, as proposed on page 143 of its program submittal. (1998 Findings, Section IV.C).

FINDING: Based on information provided in Oregon's March 2014 submission, NOAA and EPA now believe the State has satisfied this condition. The OSDS management measure is no longer a basis for finding that the Oregon has failed to submit an approvable program under CZARA.

RATIONALE NOT INCLUDED: NOAA and EPA will provide a rationale for public comment if/when the federal agencies are in a position to propose full approval of Oregon's coastal nonpoint pollution control program at a later point in time.

III. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

A. AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT MEASURES--EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL, NUTRIENT, PESTICIDE, GRAZING, AND IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT

As noted in the Foreword, the federal agencies invited public comment on the adequacy of the State's programs and policies for meeting the 6217(g) agriculture management measures and conditions placed on Oregon's Coastal Nonpoint Program.

PURPOSE OF MANAGEMENT MEASURES: The purposes of these management measures are to: (1) reduce the mass load of sediment reaching a waterbody and improve water quality and the use of the water resource; (2) minimize edge-of-field delivery of nutrients and minimize leaching of nutrients from the root zone; (3) reduce contamination of surface water and ground water from pesticides; (4) reduce the physical disturbance to sensitive areas and reduce the discharge of sediment, animal waste, nutrients, and chemicals to surface waters; and (5) reduce nonpoint source pollution of surface waters caused by irrigation.

CONDITIONS FROM JANUARY 1998 FINDINGS: Within one year, Oregon will (1) designate agricultural water quality management areas (AWQMAs) that encompass agricultural lands within the coastal nonpoint management area, and (2) complete the wording of the alternative management measure for grazing, consistent with the 6217(g) guidance. Agricultural water quality management area plans (AWQMAPs) will include management measures in conformity with the 6217(g) guidance, including written plans and equipment calibration as required practices for the nutrient management measure, and a process for identifying practices that will be used to achieve the pesticide management measure. The State will develop a process to incorporate the irrigation water management measure into the overall AWQMAPs. Within five years, AWQMAPs will be in place. (1998 Findings, Section II.B).

DISCUSSION: In 2004, the federal agencies provided Oregon with an informal interim approval of its agriculture conditions, believing that the State had satisfied those conditions, largely though its Agriculture Water Quality Management Act (ORS 568.900-933, also known as SB 1010) and nutrient management plans (ORS-468B, OAR-60374). At that time, the federal agencies found that these programs demonstrated that the State has processes in place to implement the 6217(g) management measures for agriculture as CZARA requires.

Although the federal agencies initially found that these programs enabled the State to satisfy the agriculture condition, prior to announcing the proposed decision, some specific concerns with the State's agriculture program were brought to the federal agencies' attention such as:

- Enforcement is limited and largely complaint-driven; it is unclear what enforcement actions have been taken in the coastal nonpoint management area and what improvements resulted from those actions.
- The AWQMA plan rules are general and do not include specific requirements for implementing the plan recommendations, such as specific buffer requirements to adequately protect water quality and fish habitat.
- AWQMA planning has focused primarily on impaired areas when the focus should be on both protection and restoration.
- The State does not administer a formalized process to track implementation and effectiveness of AWOMA plans.
- AWQMA planning and enforcement does not address "legacy" issues created by agriculture activities that are no longer occurring.

Given these concerns, NOAA and EPA chose to solicit additional public comment on whether the State had satisfied the 6217(g) agriculture management measure requirements and the conditions related to agriculture placed on its program. The federal agencies appreciate the comments provided and are considering them closely. NOAA and EPA will work with the State, as necessary, to ensure it has programs and policies in place to satisfy all CZARA 6217(g) requirements for agriculture before proposing and making a final decision that the State has a fully approved coastal nonpoint program. For a summary of the comments received related to agriculture, see http://coast.noaa.gov/czm/pollutioncontrol/.

OREGON COASTAL NONPOINT PROGRAM NOAA/EPA FINAL FINDING

FOREWORD

This document contains the bases for the final determination by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (collectively, the federal agencies) that the State of Oregon (State) has failed to submit an approvable Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program (Coastal Nonpoint Program) as required by Section 6217(a) of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 (CZARA), 16 U.S.C. 1455b. NOAA and EPA arrived at this proposed decision because the federal agencies find that the State hads not fully satisfied all conditions placed on the State's Coastal Nonpoint Program.

On January 13, 1998, the federal agencies approved the Oregon Coastal Nonpoint Program subject to specific conditions that the State still needed to address (see "Oregon Conditional Approval Findings"). Since then, the State has made incremental modifications to its program and has met most of those conditions.

On December 20, 2013, the federal agencies provided notice of their intent to find that the State has not fully satisfied the conditions related to new development, onsite sewage disposal systems (OSDS), and additional management measures for forestry (see "Oregon Coastal Nonpoint Program NOAA/EPA Proposed Finding"). The federal agencies invited public comment on the proposed findings relating to these conditions, as well as the extent to which those findings support a finding that the State failed to submit an approvable program under CZARA. NOAA and EPA did not propose that Oregon's failure to satisfy the agriculture management measures was a basis for the proposed decision. However, Bbased on concerns the federal agencies had heard about agriculture nonpoint source management in the state, the federal agencies also invited public comment on the adequacy of the State's programs and policies for meeting the CZARA 6217(g) agriculture management measures and conditions placed on Oregon's Coastal Nonpoint Program. Because the December 20, 2013's notice of intent did not propose a specific decision on whether or not Oregon had satisfied the CZARA 6217(g) agriculture management measures and the public did not have an opportunity to comment on a specific proposed decision and rationale for that decision, the adequacy of Oregon's agriculture programs is not a basis for the final findings that Oregon has failed to submit an approvable coastal nonpoint program. The public will have an opportunity to comment on NOAA and EPA's proposed decision regarding the agriculture management measures at a later date. (See "NOAA and EPA Response to Comments Regarding the Agencies' Proposed Finding that Oregon has Failed to Submit a Fully Approvable Coastal Nonpoint Program" for a summary of the comments received and NOAA and EPA's response to them.)

In response to NOAA and EPA's proposed findings, Oregon also-provided an additional submission in support of its coastal nonpoint program on March 20, 2014 (see "Oregon's Response to Proposed Disapproval Findings").

NOAA and EPA have carefully reviewed the public comments received and the State's March 2014 submission and have made a final determination that Oregon has failed to submit an

approvable coastal nonpoint program. This decision is based on the State's failure to address the additional management measures for forestry condition. Based on information the State provided in March, the federal agencies believe that Oregon has now satisfied the conditions for new development and OSDS so these conditions are no longer a basis for the finding that Oregon has failed to submit an approvable coastal nonpoint program. Because the public did not have an opportunity to comment on a specific proposed decision and rationale on whether or not Oregon had satisfied the CZARA 6217(g) agriculture management measures, the adequacy of Oregon's agriculture programs is not a basis for the final findings that Oregon has failed to submit an approvable coastal nonpoint program.

For further understanding of terms in this document and the basis of this decision, the reader is referred to the following documents which are available at:

- Guidance Specifying Management Measures for Sources of Nonpoint Pollution in Coastal Waters (EPA, January 1993);
- Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program: Program Development and Approval Guidance (NOAA and EPA, January 1993);
- Flexibility for State Coastal Nonpoint Programs (NOAA and EPA, March 1995);
- Final Administrative Changes to the Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program Guidance for Section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 (CZARA) (NOAA and EPA, October 1998);
- Policy Clarification on Overlap of 6217 Coastal Nonpoint Programs with Phase I and II Stormwater Regulations (NOAA and EPA, December 2002); and
- Enforceable Policies and Mechanisms for State Coastal Nonpoint Source Programs (NOAA and EPA January 2001).

Electronic copies of the documents cited above as well as any other references cited in this document and the Federal Register Notice announcing this action will be available at the following website: http://coast.noaa.gov/czm/pollutioncontrol.

SCOPE OF DECISION

This document explains the federal agencies' final finding regarding the additional management measures for forestry condition. This finding forms the basis for the federal agencies' proposed determination that the State has failed to submit an approvable program. The document also notes that explains why the new development and OSDS management measures are no longer a basis for this decision. In addition, the document acknowledges the comments received regarding the adequacy of Oregon's agriculture programs and policies for meeting the 6217(g) agriculture management measures and conditions placed on Oregon's Coastal Nonpoint Program.

NOAA and EPA's final findings in this document are based on information the State has submitted in support of each condition, the federal agencies' knowledge of coastal nonpoint source pollution management in Oregon, and the public comments received. Oregon may—and is encouraged to—continue to work on and improve its program to satisfy all coastal nonpoint program requirements. If, based on a later review of information received from the State subsequent to what the federal agencies considered for this document, NOAA and EPA

Comment [CJ1]: This statement is no longer true. Do we need to explain why these MMS are no longer a basis for approval? If so, how much information do we need to provide? Perhaps we should discuss this with the managers and legal teams.

determine that the State has submitted a fully approvable program, the federal agencies will provide another opportunity for public comment. At this time, the public will be asked to provide comment on whether or not the State has satisfied all conditions placed on its program in 1998 and met all CZARA requirements.

PROPOSED FINDING OF FAILURE TO SUBMIT AN APPROVABLE PROGRAM

The federal agencies find that the State of Oregon has failed to submit an approvable program pursuant to Section 6217(a) of CZARA.

I. UNMET CONDITION

A. ADDITIONAL MANAGEMENT MEASURES- FORESTRY

PURPOSE OF MANAGEMENT MEASURE: The purpose of this management measure is to identify additional management measures necessary to achieve and maintain applicable water quality standards and protect designated uses for land uses where the 6217(g) management measures are already being implemented under existing nonpoint source programs but water quality is still impaired due to identified nonpoint sources.

CONDITION FROM JANUARY 1998 FINDINGS: Within two years, Oregon will identify and begin applying additional management measures where water quality impairments and degradation of beneficial uses attributable to forestry exist despite implementation of the 6217(g) measures. (1998 Findings, Section X).

FINDING: Oregon has not satisfied this condition. By not satisfying the additional management measures for forestry, Oregon has failed to submit an approvable program under CZARA.

RATIONALE: Oregon proposes to address the additional management measures for forestry condition through a combination of regulatory and voluntary programs. While Oregon has made some progress towards meeting this condition, the State has not identified or begun to apply additional management measures to fully address the program weaknesses the federal agencies noted in the January 13, 1998, Findings for Oregon's Coastal Nonpoint Program. Specifically, the State has not demonstrated it has management measures, backed by enforceable authorities, in place to: (1) protect riparian areas for medium and small fish bearing streams, and non-fish bearing (type "N") streams; (2) protect high-risk landslide areas; (3) address the impacts of forest roads, particularly on so-called "legacy" roads; and (4) ensure adequate stream buffers for the application of herbicides, particularly on non-fish bearing streams.

Protection of Riparian Areas: [Insert final rationale]

Forestry Road Additional Management Measures: [Insert final rationale]

Landslide Prone Areas: [Insert final rationale]

Buffers for Pesticide Application on Non-Fish Bearing (Type N) Streams: [Insert final rationale]

II. CONDITIONS THAT ARE NO LONGER A BASIS FOR THIS DECISION

A. URBAN AREAS MANAGEMENT MEASURES - NEW DEVELOPMENT

PURPOSE OF MANAGEMENT MEASURE: The purpose of this management measure is four-fold: (1) decrease the erosive potential of increased volumes and velocities of stormwater associated with development-induced changes in hydrology; (2) remove suspended solids and associated pollutants entrained in runoff that result from activities occurring during and after development; (3) retain hydrological conditions that closely resemble those of the predisturbance condition; and (4) preserve natural systems including in-stream habitat.

CONDITION FROM JANUARY 1998 FINDINGS: Within two years, Oregon will include in its program: (1) management measures in conformity with the 6217(g) guidance; and (2) enforceable policies and mechanisms to ensure implementation throughout the coastal nonpoint management area. (1998 Findings, Section IV.A).

FINDING: Based on information provided in Oregon's March 2014 submission, NOAA and EPA now believe the State has satisfied this condition. The new development management measure is no longer a basis for finding that the Oregon has failed to submit an approvable program under CZARA.

RATIONALE NOT INCLUDED: [Insert final rationale] NOAA and EPA will provide a rationale for public comment if/when the federal agencies are in a position to propose full approval of Oregon's coastal nonpoint pollution control program at a later point in time.

B. OPERATING ONSITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

PURPOSE OF MANAGEMENT MEASURE: The purpose of this management measure is to minimize pollutant loadings from operating OSDS.

CONDITION FROM JANUARY 1998 FINDINGS: Within two years, Oregon will finalize its proposal to inspect operating OSDS, as proposed on page 143 of its program submittal. (1998 Findings, Section IV.C).

FINDING: Based on information provided in Oregon's March 2014 submission, NOAA and EPA now believe the State has satisfied this condition. The OSDS management measure is no longer a basis for finding that the Oregon has failed to submit an approvable program under CZARA.

RATIONALE NOT INCLUDED: [Insert final rationale] NOAA and EPA will provide a rationale for public comment if/when the federal agencies are in a position to propose full approval of Oregon's coastal nonpoint pollution control program at a later point in time.

III. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

A. AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT MEASURES--EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL, NUTRIENT, PESTICIDE, GRAZING, AND IRRIGATION WATER

Comment [CJ2]: Is this sufficient enough or do we need to provide more information? Legal question perhaps?

Formatted: Line spacing: single

Comment [CJ3]: Is this sufficient enough or do we need to provide more information? Legal question perhaps?

MANAGEMENT

As noted in the Foreword, the federal agencies invited public comment on the adequacy of the State's programs and policies for meeting the 6217(g) agriculture management measures and conditions placed on Oregon's Coastal Nonpoint Program.

PURPOSE OF MANAGEMENT MEASURES: The purposes of these management measures are to: (1) reduce the mass load of sediment reaching a waterbody and improve water quality and the use of the water resource; (2) minimize edge-of-field delivery of nutrients and minimize leaching of nutrients from the root zone; (3) reduce contamination of surface water and ground water from pesticides; (4) reduce the physical disturbance to sensitive areas and reduce the discharge of sediment, animal waste, nutrients, and chemicals to surface waters; and (5) reduce nonpoint source pollution of surface waters caused by irrigation.

CONDITIONS FROM JANUARY 1998 FINDINGS: Within one year, Oregon will (1) designate agricultural water quality management areas (AWQMAs) that encompass agricultural lands within the coastal nonpoint management area, and (2) complete the wording of the alternative management measure for grazing, consistent with the 6217(g) guidance. Agricultural water quality management area plans (AWQMAPs) will include management measures in conformity with the 6217(g) guidance, including written plans and equipment calibration as required practices for the nutrient management measure, and a process for identifying practices that will be used to achieve the pesticide management measure. The State will develop a process to incorporate the irrigation water management measure into the overall AWQMAPs. Within five years, AWQMAPs will be in place. (1998 Findings, Section II.B).

DISCUSSION: In 2004, the federal agencies provided Oregon with an informal interim approval of its agriculture conditions, believing that the State had satisfied those conditions, largely though its Agriculture Water Quality Management Act (ORS 568.900-933, also known as SB 1010) and nutrient management plans (ORS-468B, OAR-60374). At that time, the federal agencies found that these programs demonstrated that the State has processes in place to implement the 6217(g) management measures for agriculture as CZARA requires.

Although the federal agencies initially found that these programs enabled the State to satisfy the agriculture condition, prior to announcing the proposed decision, some specific concerns with the State's agriculture program were brought to the federal agencies' attention such as:

- Enforcement is limited and largely complaint-driven; it is unclear what enforcement
 actions have been taken in the coastal nonpoint management area and what
 improvements resulted from those actions.
- The AWQMA plan rules are general and do not include specific requirements for implementing the plan recommendations, such as specific buffer requirements to adequately protect water quality and fish habitat.
- AWQMA planning has focused primarily on impaired areas when the focus should be on both protection and restoration.
- The State does not administer a formalized process to track implementation and effectiveness of AWQMA plans.

• AWQMA planning and enforcement does not address "legacy" issues created by agriculture activities that are no longer occurring.

Given these concerns, NOAA and EPA chose to take the opportunity to also solicit additional public comment on whether the State had satisfied the 6217(g) agriculture management measure requirements and the conditions related to agriculture placed on its program. NOAA and EPA appreciate the comments received related to the agriculture components of Oregon's coastal nonpoint program. The federal agencies appreciate the comments provided and are considering them closely. NOAA and EPA will work with the State, as necessary, to ensure it has programs and policies in place to satisfy all CZARA 6217(g) requirements for agriculture before proposing and making a final decision that the State has a fully approved coastal nonpoint program. For a summary of the comments received related to agriculture, see http://coast.noaa.gov/czm/pollutioncontrol/.